

April 6, 2011

11V-221 (3 Pages)

Mr. Claude Harris
Acting Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Recall Management Division (NVS-215)
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE – Room W45-306
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Mr. Harris:

The following information is submitted pursuant to the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6 as it applies to a determination by General Motors to conduct a safety related recall for certain 2011 model year Chevrolet Cruze vehicles.

573.6(c)(1): Chevrolet Brand of General Motors LLC

573.6(c)(2)(3)(4): This information is shown on the attached sheet.

<u>573.6(c)(5)</u>: General Motors has decided that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety may exist in certain 2011 model year Chevrolet Cruze vehicles. In the unlikely event that an assembly plant repair procedure results in an improperly fastened steering wheel, the steering wheel may come loose from the steering column. If this were to happen while the vehicle was moving, the driver could lose ability to steer the vehicle, potentially leading to a crash.

573.6(c)(6): On March 16, 2011 a General Motors Field Zone Manager was notified of a 2011 Cruze that had been brought to one of its dealerships with a steering wheel that had come loose from the steering column. The affected assembly plant held shipment of 2,021 vehicles until the inspection of these vehicles was completed on March 17, 2011. This inspection found no additional steering wheels with the potential fastener condition. In addition, process adjustments were implemented at the assembly plant on March 18, 2011 as a precautionary measure. On March 23, 2011 General Motors also issued a notice to dealers to inspect all unsold vehicles prior to sale, and notify GM Engineering of any issues of an improperly fastened steering wheel. No additional steering wheel fastener abnormalities have been identified to date.

The issue was presented to the Field Performance Evaluation Review Committee and on March 30, 2011, the Executive Field Action Decision Committee decided to conduct a safety recall.



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<u>573.6(c)(8)</u>: Dealers are to inspect the steering wheel fastener bolt and repair if necessary. GM anticipates sending the dealer bulletin on April 5, 2011 and mailing owner letters on April 8, 2011.

Pursuant to 577.11(e), GM does not plan to provide notice about reimbursement to owners because all involved vehicles are covered under the new vehicle warranty.

573.6(c)(10): GM will provide copies of the dealer bulletin and owner letter when available.

Sincerely,

M. Carmen Benavides

Director, Product Investigations

and Safety Regulations

11094 Attachment

## VEHICLES POTENTIALLY AFFECTED BY MAKE, MODEL, AND MODEL YEAR PLUS INCLUSIVE DATES OF MANUFACTURE

| INCLUSIVE | EST. NO.                                 | *          |           |
|-----------|--|------------|-----------|
|           | DESCRIPTIVE INFO. TO PROPERI Y IDENT VEH | Cruze      |           |
|           | MANUFACTURING DATES (TO)                 | 03/18/2011 |           |
|           | MANUFACT<br>(FROM)                       | 11/01/2010 |           |
|           | NUMBER<br>INVOLVED                       | 2,100      | 2,100     |
|           | MODEL<br>YEAR                            | 2011       |           |
|           | MODEL<br>SERIES                          | ۵          | GM Total: |
|           | MAKE                                     | Chevrolet  |           |

<sup>\*</sup> All involved vehicles will be corrected as necessary.

573.6(c)(2)(iv): N/A

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